REMARKS

In the outstanding Office action, claims 2-11, 13-24 and 26-32 were allowed, which allowance is greatly appreciated by applicant. Claims 33-37 were rejected variously under 35 USC §102 or §103, as being anticipated by, or unpatentable over, references to Leon et al. and McDonald et al.

Claim Amendments

In this amendment, Claims 33-37 have been cancelled, without prejudice, to expedite allowance of the application. No admission is made regarding issues relating to the rejection of claims 33-37 or the new art relied upon by the Office to make such rejections. Indeed, applicant has not yet fully considered these references or the merits, or possible lack of same, of the Office's rejections. As indicated, applicant is desirous of early allowance of the application and grant of a patent thereon.

In view of the above amendments and the discussion relating thereto, it is respectfully submitted that the instant application, as amended, is in a condition for allowance. Such action is most earnestly solicited. If for any reason the Examiner feels that consultation with Applicant's representative would be helpful in the advancement of the prosecution, they are invited to call the telephone number below for an interview.

Respectfully submitted.

Bv:

Rogar Pitt Ph: (212) 536-4867

Reg. No. 46,996

KIRKPATRICK & LOCKHART NICHOLSON GRAHAM LLP 599 Lexington Avenue (33rd Floor) New York, NY 10022-6030

Certificate of Transmission

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, to

(ax No. (371), 273-8300, on January 12, 2006.

Road Pitt Rev. No. 46,996